Several Ar-Rayah flags or the flags with Tauhid phrase [Belief in the unity of Allah phrase and Muhammad is His Messenger] have been burnt by Banser or the para-military group of Ansor (the youth wing of NU, the largest Islamic community organization in Indonesia) during the first National Santri Day commemoration in Garut, West Java on Monday (22 October). To them, they are the flags of HTI (the defunct Indonesian Hizbut Tahrir).

In response to such actions, however, there have been many individuals and hard-line groups staging rallies, protesting against the burning.

In the meantime, the chairman of Daarut Tauhid Pesantren [the Islamic boarding school], cleric Abdullah Gymnastiar a.k.a. Aa Gym, strongly stated Tuesday (on 23 October) that it was heartbreaking, and obviously causing anger.

“The perpetrators should immediately repent,” the cleric quoted as saying by urnalslam.com, adding that the people would understandably get very angry but it would be best if they did not make any anarchic and chaotic actions.

Source: